SEPT 1973

2p

# The MESSENGER

## THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

St. Stephen's, Milnrow & Littleborough

September 1973

Dear Friends,

I am sure the news that the Revd.A.V.J. Nash B.A., of Tollesbury, Essex, is to become the minister of our joint pastorate, has come as good news to all who share with us the interests of our churches.

The date when Mr. Nash will commence his ministry amongst us is not yet fixed, but in readiness a considerable amount of work has been and still is being carried out at the Manse to bring the building up to the standards which will be acceptable to the future occupant.

I am grateful to all who have given of their time and talent on this project.

There is a lot of work still to be done in our churches in readiness for the arrival of Mr. & Mrs. Nash and I hope we shall all rally round and do whatever is asked of us.

May God Bless you in your work now, and in the future.

Your sincere friend,

Allan Roberts

## FAITH IS A MIGHT FORTRESS

We anxiously view the days of the year
With mixed emotions of
Hope and Fear.
Hope for the Peace we long have saught,
Fear that Our Hopes
will come to naught.....
Unwilling to trust the Father's Will,
We count on our logic and shallow skill
And, in our arrogance and pride,
Man is no longer satisfied
To place his confidence and love
With Childlike Faith
in God above.....
But tiny hands and tousled heads
That kneel in prayer by little beds
Are closer to the dear Lord's heart
And of His Kingdom
more a part
Than we who search and never find
The answers to our questioning mind,
For faith in things we cannot see
Requires a child's simplicity...
Oh, Father, grant once more to men
A simple Childlike Faith again,
Forgetting Colour, Race
and Creed
And seeing only the heart's deep need...
For Faith alone can save
man's soul
And lead him to a Higher Goal,
For there's but one unfailing course
We win by Faith
And not by Force.

.....Helen Steiner Rice

(From a book of a collection of her poems)

HOLY BAPTISM

On Sunday 5th August at St. Stephen's
Mr. A. Roberts officiating:

STEVEN MARK, son of John and Christine Rothwell,
31 Ladyhouse Close, Milnrow.

Jesus said: "Let the children come to me!
Do not try to stop them; for the Kingdom of
God belongs to such as these..

==========

FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

September 2nd: "The Old Scripture Fulfilled"
Matthew 5: 17-22

9th: "The Majesty of God"
Isaiah 40: 21-25

16th: Need and Response"
Luke 16: 19-31

23rd "The Courage of Witness"
Acts 4: 1-4; 16-20

30th "Rejoice in God's Goodness"
Deuteronomy 26: 1-10

==========

ON SUNDAY EVENING, 12th AUGUST, Miss Molly Wood was inducted and ordained as an Elder of our church at St. Stephen's, by our Interim-Moderator Rev. R.A.C. West M.A.

*

We still have vacancies on the Eldership at St. Stephen's.

Mr. A. Roberts would be pleased to hear from anyone who is interested.

Please think and pray for this work.

"The most important things in life aren't things"

## BILLY- THE POST

On Tuesday the 7th August, 25 ladies met at St. Stephen's to hear Counc. W.S. Edwards of Wardle.

Counc. Edwards (known as "Billy the Post") gave a very interesting talk about his work as the rural postman. His descriptive accounts of the Wardle countryside left many of us thinking - what a lot we miss! The life stories of the inhabitants of this moorland route provided both highly amusing and also rather sad stories. Counc. Edwards obviously enjoys his work, and his love of the countryside and nature was clear to see as he described to us how the birds build their nests and the thrill of seeing the eggs hatch out.

As a J.P. he also has many other tasks to perform in his already busy days which start around 5.0 am.

In January he plans to take a trip to Russia. It is hoped that he will perhaps tell the ladies all about that! at a later date.

*

The Women's Guild will not be holding a September meeting due to the holdays.

The next meeting will therefore be held on the 2nd October when Mr. J. Collins will speak on Youth Work in the Church.

**********

### WHERE ELSE?

Classified advertisement in a Cornish Newspaper:

"Ginger cat found in Mousehole area."

## MISSION HAS MANY FACES

Mission is a giggle of schoolgirls
and the decorative art of a Papuan.
A little African girl barefooted
in front of an army truck,
and a little white girl holding her piglet
as she talks to a tall Papuan warrier in
full dress.
Mission is a microscope in Zambia
and a radio transceiver in New Guinea.
Mission has many faces -
the many faces of love,
the many faces of hope,
the many faces of life.
And the many faces are one face -
the face of God.

******

A total of £30.14 was received for World Mission from the Missionary Boxes which were recently emptied at Milnrow.....Grateful thanks to all who sent in their boxes.

******

## HELP THE AGED

(Rochdale & District Appeal)

St. Stephen's will be open on Wednesday, the 26th September from 2.00 - 5.00 pm., to receive good clothing and blankets for aged refugees and destitute overseas.

Miss M. Wood would be pleased to receive any offers of help for Wednesday the 26th.. Please let her know.

## NORTH EAST MANCHESTER DISTRICT WOMEN'S RALLY

The District Women's Rally has been arranged for Wednesday September 12th at 7.45 pm., to be held at King Street United Reformed Church, Oldham. The speaker will be Miss M.I. Ellis of Preston. We hope you will help to make this first rally of the new District a success, and give your name to Mrs. C. Clough before 2nd September if possible, if you would like to go, so that transport arrangements can be made. It will also assist with catering arrangements as light refreshments will be served during the evening.

==========

Please note the following at MILNROW

FRIDAY, 21st September: JUMBLE SALE

7.00 pm.

FRIDAY, 26th October: ONE DAY THRIFT SHOP

2.00 - 4.00 pm. & 7.00 pm.

Please send your JUMBLE in September and save your good quality goods for the THRIFT SHOP. (No furniture please!)

SUNDAY, 23rd September: HARVEST THANKSGIVING

11.00 am: Rev. J.B. Pettifer
(Vicar of Littleborough)
6.00 pm: Mr. A. Roberts

Gifts of food & flowers will received from 4.00 to 5.00 pm. on Saturday.

SUNDAY, 7th October: FAMILY CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

11.00 am. & 6.00 pm.
Revd. Glyn Jenkins B.A., B.D., (Dursley)

Choir practices for Harvest & Anniversary begin Friday, 14th September.

## DATE AND WALNUT LOAF

12 oz. Flour
1 oz. Margarine
1 oz. Lard
8 oz. Sugar
1 Egg
½ teastp. Salt
4 oz. Dates
2 oz. Walnuts
1 teasp. Bicarbonate of Soda
½ teasp. Vanilla essence
⅓ pint Boiling water

Stone and chop the dates and cover them with the boiling water. Sift the flour and salt into a bowl, rub in the fat and add the sugar. Make a well in the centre of the dry ingregients, and mix in the beaten egg, vanilla essence and the water drained from the dates, in which the bicarbonate of soda has previously been dissolved. Add the dates and chopped walnuts.
Turn into a greased bread tin and bake in a moderate oven.
When cold cut into thin slices and serve with butter.

1½ hours at 325° (Mark 3)

.....Submitted by Mrs. D. Emmott

---

Child in playpen to companion outside:
"I'm in the maximum security block again."

---

## PLAYING THE GAME

Champion cricketer Dr. W.G. Grace had honoured two local Brighton teams with his presence at a special match.

The great moment came when W.G. Grace took his place at the wicket. The local ace bowler delivered a sizzling yorker, and W.G. was out first ball. But the bowler's face fell when the great man refused to leave the field, declaring: "They came to see me bat, not to see you bowl!"

## 80 NOT OUT

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Mr. J. NAIRN who reached the age of 80 during August, and is still an active Elder in our Littleborough Church.

Best wishes also to Mr. Worhtington of 19, Hollingworth Road, Littleborough who will be 80 years of age on September 2nd.

********

Mr. & Mrs. F. BEATTIE wish to express their grateful thanks to everyone for the good wishes, cards, flowers and gifts received on their Golden Wedding Day.

## POINT TO PONDER

"I loathe drudgery as much as any man; but I have learned that the only way to conquer drudgery is to get through it as neatly, as efficiently, as one can. You know perfectly well that a dull job slackly done becomes twice as dull; whereas a dull job which you try to do just as well you can becomes half as dull. Here again, effort appears to me the main art of living."

## A 'FAIR' DO

The Ladies of the Drapery Stall at the coming Autumn Fiar, would like to thank everyone who helped in any awy to make the American Supper held on the 17th July, a most enjoyable evening.

Grateful thanks to the "New Creation" from St. Stephen's who made the evening such a happy, memorable occasion.

The proceeds amounted to £13.81

*

## FINE WEATHER....But some got wet!

Well, we had a fine day for our visit to Todmorden Park; the weather being dull but warm. Nobody got lost in the Summit Tunnel and apart from one or two falls off the roundabout, etc., the event passed off very well. Nine children went swimming under the watchful eye of Mrs. Leach (who was on dry land) and no life-saving was necessary. The usual large quantities of ice-cream, pop, and crisps were consumed.

*

## FAREWELL GIFTS

In view of Mrs. Wall's impending departure to Blackpool, presentations of a purse from the Women's Guild, and a Stainless Steel Tray from the Junior Church Staff, were made after the service on Sunday, August 19th. Patricia was given her Promotion prize, a New English Bible.

*

Please note the following dates: LITTLEBOROUGH

SUNDAY, 23 September: HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Gifts of food
(not just fruit and flowers)
will be gratefully received
from 2.30 - 3.30 pm. on Saturday.

These gifts will be distributed after the evening service when usually we have about 50 calls to make, so your HELP IS NEEDED, Please!

---

THURSDAY, 27th September: MEN ONLY

The opening meeting of the winter session of the Men's Fellowship will be held at 8.0 pm., and an invitation is given to all males, whether connected with our Church or not. A good speaker, debate, and varied concoctions for supper are assured, so please come along.

---

TUESDAY, 2nd October: 30 OR ELSE!!!!!

COOKERY DEMONSTRATION BY N.W.G.B. at 7.30 pm.
Admission 10p including refreshments.

Proceeds for the funds of the Women's Guild and Busy Bees.

Please note: We have to guarantee an audience of 30, otherwise a charge of £5.50 will be made by the North Western Gas Board.

Depending on your presence we have booked it, and look forward to seeing you.

Please make this joint effort a success.

## CHURCH DUTIES - MILNROW

### FAMILY CHURCH DOOR STEWARDS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 2nd | Mr. G. Buckley | Mr. A. Rae |
| 9th | Mr. H. Mellor | Mrs. F. Butterworth |
| 16th | Mr. D. Fursey | Mrs. J. Duffy |
| 23rd | Counc. J. Harrison | Counc. I. Royle |
| 30th | Mr. J. Collins | Mrs. A. Collins |
| Oct. 7th | Mr. L. Whittaker | Mrs. F. Rae |

| | ELDERS ROTA<br>EVENING DOOR STEWARDS | ORGANIST/PIANIST<br>EVENING WORSHIP |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 2nd | No Evening Service | |
| 9th | Mr. R. Gillon | Mrs. C. Hey |
| 16th | Mr. K. Hey | Mr. J. Emmott |
| 23rd | Mr. J. Wild | Mr. D. Logan |
| 30th | Mr. B. Clough | Mrs. C. Hey |
| Oct. 7th | Mrs. E. Gillon | Mr. A. Clegg |

### COMMUNION ROTA

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9th | Miss M. Wood | Mr. J. Wild |
| 16th | Mrs. N. Settle | Mrs. M. Howarth (am.) |
| Oct. 7th | Mr. A. Roberts | Mr. B. Clough |

### FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 2nd | — | — |
| 9th | Mrs. J. Duffy | Mrs. F. Butterworth |
| 16th | Mrs. A. Wood | Mrs. A. Collins |
| 23rd | Mrs. H. Whitehead | Mrs. Greenhalgh |
| 30th | Mrs. E. Garside | Mrs. J. Calow |
| Oct. 7th | Mrs. C. Hey | Mrs. M. Mellor |

Persons unable to take their appointments as listed are expected to find a suitable substitute.

### OFFERTORIES

| | Cash | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | am. | pm. | Envelopes | Total |
| July 1st | 1.20 | — | 4.25 | 5.45 |
| 8th | 2.24½ | 2.00 | 28.53½ | 32.78 |
| 15th | 4.96 | 1.22 | 13.45 | 19.63 |
| 22nd | 4.92 | — | 17.73½ | 22.65½ |
| 20th | 2.61 | 3.18 | 17.43½ | 23.22½ |
| | £15.93½ | £6.40 | £81.40½ | £103.74 |

## CHURCH DUTIES - LITTLEBOROUGH

### DOOR STEWARDS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sept. 2nd | Church Closed | | |
| 9th | Mr. J. Holt | Mr. B. Hill | 10.30 |
| | Mr. J. Lord | Mr. E. Holt | 6.00 |
| 16th | Mr. Nairn | Mrs. Stott | |
| 23rd | Mr. Barker | Mr. F. Ingham | 10.30 |
| | Mr. J. Lord | Mr. J. Holt | 6.00 |
| 30th | Mr. E. Holt | Mr. J. Hill | |
| Oct. 7th | Mr. H.N. Hill | Mr. Barker | |

### ELDERS COMMUNION ROTA

Sept. 9th Mr. Beattie Mr. F. Simpson 6.00

### COFFEE ROTA

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 2nd | Church Closed | |
| 9th | J. Simpson | E. Crawford |
| 16th | K. Hill | D. Mallinson |
| 23rd | S. Moss | B. Hartley |
| 30th | B. Holt | A. Merrick |
| Oct. 7th | J. Law | J. Allison |

### FAMILY CHURCH READINGS: Details on Page 4

Readers:

| | |
|---|---|
| Sept. 9th | Mrs. Vincent |
| 16th | Mrs. K. Hill |
| 23rd | Harvest |
| 30th | Mrs. M.G. Hill |
| Oct. 7th | Martin Law |

********

## ST. STEPHEN'S DIARY

September

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sun. | 2nd | 11.00 am. | Mr. N. Prince |
| | | | No Evening Service |
| Sun. | 9th | 11.00 am. | |
| | | 6.00 pm. | Service of Word & Sacrament |
| Wed. | 12th | 7.30 pm. | Elders Meeting |
| | | 7.45 pm. | District Women's Rally at King St. U.R.C. Oldham. |
| Sun. | 16th | 11.00 am. | Mrs. E. Gillon (Family Communion |
| | | 6.00 pm. | Mrs. M. Carnihan |
| Fri. | 21st | 7.00 pm. | Jumble Sale |
| Sat. | 22nd | 4.00-5.00 pm. | School open for Receiving Harvest Gifts |
| Sun. | 23rd | | HARVEST THANKSGIVING |
| | | 11.00 am. | Rev. J.B. Pettifer (Vicar of Littleborough) |
| | | 6.00 pm. | Mr. A. Roberts |
| Wed. | 26th | 2.00-5.00 pm. | Receipt of Clothing and Blankets for "HELP THE AGED" Appeal. |
| | | 8.00 pm. | Church Meeting |
| Sun. | 30th | 11.00 am. | Mr. A. Cooper |
| | | 6.00 pm. | Mr. D. S. Nuttall B.Sc. |

October

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tues. | 2nd | 7.30 pm. | Women's Guild: Mr. J. Collins (Youth Work in church) |
| Sun. | 7th | | FAMILY CHURCH ANNIVERSARY |
| | | 11.00 am.) | Revd. Glyn Jenkins B.A., B.D. |
| | | 6.00 pm.) | (Dursley) |

==========

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. | 2nd | Mrs. A. Whitworth |
| | 9th | Miss J. Reed |
| | 16th | Mrs. D. Bruckshaw |
| | 23rd | Harvest |
| | 30th | Mrs. D. Brewin |
| Oct. | 7th | Mrs. D. Heys & Mrs. E. Scholes |

## LITTLEBOROUGH DIARY

**September**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sun. 2nd | | Church Closed |
| Sun. 9th | 10.30 am. | Mr. J. Lord |
| | 6.00 pm. | Mrs. E. Gillon (Communion) |
| Wed. 12th | 7.45 pm. | District Women's Rally at King St. U.R.C. Oldham. |
| Sun. 16th | 10.30 am. | Mrs. M. Jeffrey |
| Sun. 23rd | 10.30 am.) | HARVEST THANKSGIVING |
| | 6.00 pm.) | |
| | | Mr. Graham Andrews of Littleborough |
| Tues.25th | 7.45 pm. | Church Meeting |
| Thur.27th | 8.00 pm. | Men's Fellowship: Mr. B. Garlick |
| Sun. 30th | 10.30 am. | Mr. E. Fallows |

**October**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Tue. 2nd | 7.30 p.m. | Cookery Demonstration by N.W. G.B. (Miss Dewhirst) |
| Oct. 7th | 10.30 am. | Promotion Sunday |

## FLOWERS FOR THE COMMUNION TABLE

| | |
|---|---|
| Sept. 2nd | Church Closed |
| 9th | Mrs. Holt |
| | Mrs. Cockcroft |
| 16th | Mrs. Shackleton |
| 23rd | Harvest |
| 30th | Mrs. Nairn |
| Oct. 7th | Mrs. Lightfoot |

## OFFERTORIES

| | Cash | Envelopes |
|---|---|---|
| July 8th | £2.45 | £20.58 |
| 15th | £2.21 | £11.15 |
| 22nd | £4.88½ | £14.67½ |
| 29th | £0.48½ | £ 7.77½ |
| Aug. 5th | £2.07½ | £ 7.97½ |

## CHURCH SECRETARIES:

### MILNROW

Mr. Allan Roberts,
54 Beechfield Road,
Milnrow.
Tel: ROCHDALE 42243

### LITTLEBOROUGH

Mr. F.G. Simpson,
121 Calderbrook Road,
Littleborough.
Tel: 061 834 4402
(Business)

*

## MESSENGER EDITOR:

Counc. Ian Royle B.Sc. (Econ.),
24 Ladyhouse Close,
Milnrow.
Tel: ROCHDALE 41916

*

## HOSPITAL VISITORS

MILNROW: Miss M. Wood
Mrs. A. Wood
Mrs. E. Starkie
Miss A. Memory

*